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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Stanley T. Crooke

Serial No.: 09/479,783

Group Art Unit: 1635

Filed: January 7, 2000

Examiner: S. McGarry

For: Oligoribonucleotides And Ribonucleases For Cleaving RNA

Certificate of Facsimile Transmission

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On <u>April 3, 2002</u>

Paul K. Legaard Reg. No. 38,534

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination on the ments, Applicant respectfully requests that the application be amended as follows.

In the Claims:

Please add new claims 101-105 as follows:

(New claim) A double-stranded RNA comprising a duplex of a first oligonucleotide and a second oligonucleotide, wherein said first and said second oligonucleotides each include a portion having at least four consecutive ribofuranosyl residues having phosphodiester linkages, wherein said portions are base-paired with each other in said duplex, and wherein one of said first and said second oligonucleotides comprising from eight to fifty nucleoside subunits.

